Cumberland Valley DEIC Minutes December 9, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Nancy Stivers. Welcome and Introductions were announced.

Sub Committee Updates:

Operations: no updates

Transition: Nancy Stivers will make changes to the current Interagency Agreement and distribute to Robert Day and Ginger Brashear for signatures.

Training: Rebecca Steely, Parent consultant, will begin First Steps Parent Orientation trainings in January 2006. The first one is scheduled at the Commission for Children office in Barbourville. PSCs are encouraged to let families know about these trainings, as they will be extremely informative, even if the child has been in the system for awhile. It was also discussed that some form of program, guest speaker, or training will be offered at each quarterly DEIC/PSC meeting.

Child Find/Public Awareness: The Kentucky State Performance Plan Report to OSEP indicated that the percentage of babies birth to one receiving services is at 37%. This is low compared to the national average. The child find committee will research ways to target birth to one population audiences, such as more information for pediatricians, etc. Barbara Steele also expressed a need for the DEIC to try to compile a list of available translators and interpreters in our area that can be utilized by the Point of Entry, as this is a need.

Membership: There was a discussion about what actually makes up the "official" voting membership of the DEIC. The following are required to be represented: 1 parent of a special needs child – Rebecca Steely, 5 early intervention providers – any First Steps provider in attendance, 1 representative from the local health department – Barbara Steele, 1 representative from social services – vacant, 1 representative from the Mental Health/Mental Retardation system – Chad Jackson or Louise Reid, 1 representative from the Commission for Children – various employees of CCSHCN, 1 representative from the local school district – Ginger Brashear, Nancy Stivers, 1 representative from the local Head Start – Juanita Wells, Marge Neal. The DEIC must have a quorum present to vote. It was discussed that this would be at least 5 of the above-mentioned people.

Old Business:

We need to update our e-mail distribution list. Please send your e-mail address to: nstivers@clay.k12.ky.us

POE/Head Start:

The Point of Entry reported that referrals are way up and that additional staff is greatly needed to help reach the 45-day timeline. Head Start reported that they have 120 children with disabilities in Knox, Clay, and Harlan Counties. They received 16 referrals from First Steps since last meeting.

Next Meeting Date will be Friday, March 3, 2006 at the Laurel County Library from 9-11.